

Sub D'  
C1  
1. (amended) A method for arbitrating bandwidth in a communications switch, comprising:

- a) generating a repeating data frame having a plurality of rows;
- b) making requests during row N for space in row N+1;
- c) during row N, arbitrating said requests; and
- d) granting said requests through an out-of-band link for space in row N+1.

C2  
13. (amended) An apparatus for arbitrating bandwidth in a communications switch, comprising:

- a) means for generating a repeating data frame having a plurality of rows;
- b) means for making requests during row N for space in row N+1;
- c) means for during row N arbitrating said requests; and
- d) means for granting said requests through an out-of-band link for space in row N+1.

REMARKS

On March 5, 2003 the undersigned met with the Examiner and his supervisor. During the meeting, it was agreed that the amendment presented above will put the claims in condition for allowance over the art of record.

In light of all of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in order for allowance, and prompt allowance is earnestly requested. Should any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney of record so that the case may proceed expeditiously to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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March 6, 2003

1. (amended) A method for arbitrating bandwidth in a communications switch, comprising:
- a) generating a repeating data frame having a plurality of rows;
  - b) making requests during row N for space in row N+1;
  - ~~c) arbitrating during row N said requests;~~ and
  - [c] d) granting ~~said~~ requests through an out-of-band link ~~for space in row N+1.~~
13. (amended) An apparatus for arbitrating bandwidth in a communications switch, comprising:
- a) means for generating a repeating data frame having a plurality of rows;
  - b) means for making requests during row N for space in row N+1;
  - ~~c) means for during row N arbitrating said requests;~~ and
  - [c] d) means for granting ~~said~~ requests through an out-of-band link ~~for space in row N+1.~~